



## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE SPECIALIST

The English as a Second Language Specialist certificate is valid for service as an English as a Second Language Specialist (self-contained or resource model program) in all grades (PK-12) of the public schools of Rhode Island.

### I. **Certificate of Eligibility for Employment (CEE)** – valid for three (3) years.

The initial certificate in Rhode Island for all areas of certification is a CEE. The CEE is used to seek regular employment in the public schools of Rhode Island for the field identified on the CEE. The CEE is also valid for service as a substitute teacher. If regular employment is not secured in the three (3) year period, the CEE can be renewed every three (3) years (see note one) until regular employment is secured. To be issued a CEE as an English as a second language specialist an individual needs to satisfy all of the following:

- A. Bachelor's Degree from an accredited or an approved institution of higher education as defined in these regulations.

Graduate of an approved program for the preparation of English as a Second Language Specialist within the previous five (5) years from the date of application. Applicants who have not completed an approved program can be certified by transcript analysis by presenting evidence of six (6) semester hours of student teaching as a English as a Second Language and not less than twenty-four semester hours of course work to include work in each of the following areas: Human Growth and Development, Identification and Service to Special Needs Students, Introduction to English Linguistics, Theories of First and Secondary Language Acquisition, Curriculum and Methods for ESL Programs, Second Language Assessment and Evaluation, Socio-Cultural Foundations of ESL Education, and Second Language Literacy for LEP Learners. The student teaching requirement may be waived for an applicant who has had two or more documented years of successful teaching experience in an approved English as a second language setting. Certified teachers who have had two or more years of teaching experience and who seek English as a Second Language certification may fulfill the student teaching requirement by completing a one-year supervised internship at the English as a second language level. After completing the necessary course work for the English as a Second Language certificate, and arranging through the local community for a one-year internship, the Superintendent of Schools may request the issuance of a one-year professional transitional certificate. The Department of Education must approve the internship in advance and the supervisor must have at least 3 years of teaching experience. Upon successful completion of the internship, the individual will be issued a one year professional transitional certificate.

- B. Applicants who have not previously been certified in the State of Rhode Island must achieve a score of at least 167 on the Principles of Learning and Teaching test, K-6 or the Principles of Learning and Teaching test, 7-12 prior to being certified. Only one test is required.

### II. **Professional transitional certificate** - valid for one year.

- A. The professional transitional certificate is issued to individuals who secure regular employment in the public schools of Rhode Island. Upon securing regular employment in Rhode Island, the CEE is used

to request one year professional transitional certificate. When applying for a one year professional transitional certificate the applicant must submit the CEE along with documentation from the employing authority that regular employment has been secured in the certification area of the CEE.

- B. The professional transitional certificate may be renewed annually with the submission of a completed application and payment of the renewal fees.

Applicable to certificates expiring after August 31, 2010.